

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 AGR-20 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 RSR-01 /106 W

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R 281945 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4752

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, UY

SUBJ: URUGUAYAN WHEAT IMPORT PROJECTIONS

CY 1973-74

REF: ( A) STATE 215785 ( B) STATE 125374

PASS AGRICULTURE. BUENOS AIRES FOR AGATT

1. AS REPORTED IN BUENOS AIRES UR 3011, APRIL 6, 1973, URUGUAY' S 1972-73 WHEAT PRODUCTION DROPPED TO 180,000 MT. GOU WILL HAVE TO IMPORT ABOUT 210,000 MT OF WHEAT TO MEET CY 1973 CONSUMPTION NEEDS. 140,000 MT HAS BEEN PURCHASED FROM ARGENTINA AND 10,000 MT HAS BEEN DONATED BY EEC LEAVING A PROJECTED SHORTFALL OF ABOUT 60,000 MT.
2. A COMBINATION OF UNUSUALLY WET WEATHER AND FARMER DIS-SATISFACTION WITH GOU PRICING AND CREDIT POLICIES HAS RETARDED PLANTING OF 19 73-74 CROP. MINISTER OF LIVESTOCK AND AGRICULTURE ESTIMATES AREA TO BE PLANTED AT ABOUT 300,000 HECTARES; HOWEVER, TRADE SOURCES DO NOT EXPECT TOTAL WHEAT ACREAGE TO EXCEED 200,000 HECTARES.
3. ASSUMING AN AVERAGE YIELD OF 1,000 KILOS PER HECTARE (68-72

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AVERAGE YIELD IS 1019 KILOS PER HECTARE), CY 1974 PRODUCTION WOULD BE BETWEEN 200,000 AND 300,000 MT. FIVE YEAR (67-71) DOMESTIC CONSUMPTION AVERAGE IS 374,000 MT; HOWEVER, DUE PRINCIPALLY TO GOU VEDA POLICY ( THREE TO FOUR MONTH BAN ON BEEF CONSUMPTION) WHEAT CONSUMPTION INCREASED BY 14 PERCENT OVER THE FIVE YEAR AVERAGE DURING 1972, REACHING 426,000 MT.

4. THEREFORE, ACCEPTING THE ASSUMPTIONS OF REDUCED ACREAGE, AVERAGE YIELD, AND INCREASED CONSUMPTION, URUGUAY WILL PROBABLY REQUIRE FROM 125,000 TO 225,000 MT OF WHEAT IMPORTS DURING CY 1974.

5. GOU WOULD PREFER US CONCESSIONAL OR CCC CREDIT TERMS; HOWEVER, IF FORCED TO MAKE COMMERCIAL PURCHASES, GOU WOULD PROBABLY FIRST TRY TO BUY FROM ARGENTINA WITH US BEING SUPPLIER OF LAST RESORT.  
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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, DEVELOPMENT CREDIT, ECONOMIC CONSUMPTION, WHEAT  
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**Draft Date:** 28 JUN 1973  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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